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OMKAR SURYADEVARA	(Depositor's name)
S. Omkar	(Signature)
December 13, 2004	(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/849,005	05/04/2001	Chian-Min Richard Ho	M-5333-1C US	1848
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TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY SEARCHING FOR FUNCTIONAL DEFECTS IN A DESCRIPTION OF A CIRCUIT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional	NO	\$1330 \$1400	\$0	\$1330 \$1400	12/13/2004
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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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FREJD, RUSSELL WARREN	2128	703-014000
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(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

MENTOR GRAPHICS CORPORATION

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Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☒ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

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- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
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any underpaid fee

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above. NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature

S. Omkar

Date

Dec. 13, 2004

Typed or printed name

OMKAR SURYADEVARA

Registration No.

36,320

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Inventor: Chian-Min, Richard Ho
Title: Method for automatically searching for defects in a description of a circuit
Serial No.: 09/849,005 Filing Date: May 4, 2001
Examiner: Frejd, Russell Warren Group Art Unit: 2123
Docket No.: 01N006-1C US Confirmation No.: 1848

Santa Clara, California
December 13, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Dear Sir:

This paper is timely submitted because it is filed with issue fee payment for the above-identified patent application.

In the Notice of Allowability mailed on September 13, 2004, the Examiner stated, in a section entitled "Reasons for Allowance", that the instant application is directed to a non-obvious improvement over US Patent 5,729,554. The Examiner further stated (at the top of page 2) that the improvement comprises a method for determining defects ... whereby the transition from the current state to the second next state is performed automatically after the transition to the first next state without entering a reset state. This patentable distinction is included in each of the independent claims, nos. 11, 16, 27, 29-31, 33, 42, 44, 48-53, 57, 62, 64, and 69."

Applicants respectfully traverse that the Examiner's reasons for allowance as being incorrect, for at least the following reason. Specifically, the limitation "transition ... without entering a reset state" is not present (either explicitly or implicitly) in Claims 27, 29, 30, 31, 33, 44, 48-53, 57, 62, 64 and 69. In fact the word "reset" is not present in any of Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 44, 48-53, 57, 62, 64 and 69. Although the word "reset" is used in Claim 27, this

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claim merely requires the current state to be non-reset, without specifying whether or not the reset state may be entered when restoring the simulation.

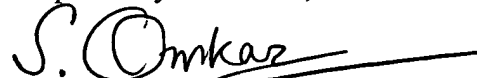
Applicants submit that Claims 27, 29, 30, 31, 33, 44, 48-53, 57, 62, 64 and 69 (and any claims that depend therefrom) are to be interpreted broadly to cover transitions with or without entering the reset state, because this limitation is not cited therein. To the extent the Examiner believes that such broadly-interpreted claims are not allowable over the prior art of record, the Examiner is invited to re-open prosecution on the merits, as per MPEP §1308.01.

In addition, the Examiner attached only a single page IDS to the Notice of Allowability, although Applicants addressed the Examiner's objection to a 24-sheet Part B IDS in the Amendment dated April 28, 2004 (see bottom of page 23 and top of page 24 of this Amendment). In view of allowance of the current patent application Applicants believe that the Examiner has withdrawn his objection to the 24-sheet IDS. Hence, all references in these 24 sheets are believed to have been considered for their relevance to the patentability of the allowed claims. If these references were not considered for any unknown reason, the Examiner is invited to re-open prosecution on the merits, as per MPEP §1308.01.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408) 982-8200, ext. 3.

**Via Express Mail Label No.
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Respectfully submitted,



Omkar K. Suryadevara
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 36,320

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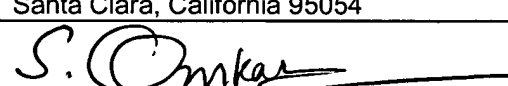
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 <p>TRANSMITTAL FORM</p> <p><small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small></p>	Application Number	09/849,005	
	Filing Date	May 4, 2001	
	First Inventor	Chian-Min Richard Ho	
	Confirmation No.	1848	
	Group Art Unit	2123	
	Examiner Name	Frejd, Russell Warren	
Total Number Of Pages In This Submission	5	Attorney Docket No.	01N006-1C US

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal Form – PTOL-85 PART B (1 page) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached: Check (1 page) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments on Statement of Reasons For Allowance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final (2 pages) <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declarations <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> This is a Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice To File Missing Parts (2 pages)	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation of Previous Powers; And Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">RETURN RECEIPT POSTCARD</div>
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	Omkar K. Suryadevara (Reg. No. 36,320) Silicon Valley Patent Group LLP 2350 Mission College Boulevard, Suite 360 Santa Clara, California 95054
Signature	
Date	December 13, 2004

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